ration, (iy) strengthening of social marketing and community based distribution programmes for contraceptives, (v) signicantly expanding the rote and participation of private sector and NGOs, (vi) evolving strong institutional mechanisms for comprehensive monitoring, assessment and operational research, (vii) supporting training activities of service-providers and (viii) evolving models for diffusion of innovative approaches that will have wide applicability throughout India especially in the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(c) Stoggestions/commentg from various organisations and experts engaged in the task in the Uttar Pradesh State would be taken into account in the process of profect development.

AIDS virus in Vijayawada

1000. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to -state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express dated 17th February, 1992 under the caption 'WDS virus has the last laugh in Vijayawada":

CM if so. whether Government have obtained details of this state of affairs in Vijayawada;

(c) what is the exact position in Vijayawada with regard to AIDS:

(d) what specific steps are being taken to attend to the problem there; and

(e) what is the reaction of Andhra Prakesh Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WEI FARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI STDDHARTHA): (a) Yes. The Government has seen the news article in the question.

Ch) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid of the table of the house,

Technology mission on population

1001. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BULLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a technology mission on popula tion and also introduction of a National Movement for Population Control (NMPC);

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that several organisations including: PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry have also communicated similar views to the Government for population control; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI S1DDHARTHA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to setup a Technology Mission on Population Control. It is felt that considering the multi-dimensional and complex nature of the population problem involving deep-rooted nersonal beliefs, attitudinal and socio-cniltiiral factors, a Technology Mission approach to the problem would not be feasible.

For the success of the Population Control active involvement of all sections of the people in the programme is of vital importance. Transforming the oopiilation control programme into a national movement requires a broad national coacensras and commitment of people in all strata of the society. During the past few month;-, concrete stens have been taken to have a national consensus to meet the challenge of stabilising the population growth in the country. These are summarised below:—

(i) The population problem was discussed in the last meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) where there was unanimity that population control should he kept above

party politics and should receive the highest national priority. A Committee of the NDC has been set up to oversee population issues and evolve a National Population Policy.

(ii) In the Conference of Ministers incharge of Health and Family Wel fare of States/UTs held in January, 1992. there was unanimity that popu lation control is *of urgen*t national importance. The Action Plan formu lated by the Government, in close consultation with the State Govern ment, /Union Territories administra tion for giving a new thrust and dyna mism to the Family Welfare Program me was unanimously endorsed for implementation.

(iii) Population Control has been identified as one of the thrust areas in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(el Dr. Karan Singh while delivering the 25th Shri Ram Memorial Lecture on "Population: the forgotten factor" under the, auspices of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), has also [suggested setting up a 'technology mission" on population and introduction of a national movement for population control (NMPC) with immediate effect.

(d) Government's view are already indicated at part (a) and (b) above.

Statutory warning on TOBACCO products

1002. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to make "Statutory warning" compulsory to all tobacco products as is being done in the case of cigarettes;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI S1DDHARTHA): (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration.

Dreg for leprosy

1003. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern ment have refused to offer trials of a new drug for leprosy; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No Sir. The trial for new drug (Ofloxacin) in combination with other drags for treatment of leprosy has heen cleared.

(b) Does not arise.

Promotion of group B.C. and D posts in A.I.I.M.S.

1004. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have re ceived report of Career Development Committee set up in 1986 and Cadre Review Committee set up in 1990 re-garding promotion of Group B, C and D posts in AU India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; land

(c) the decision Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MENOGSTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI STOiDHARTHA): (a) to (c) The recommendations made by the Cadre Review Committee have been approved by the Standing Finance Committee aijd the Governing Body of me